

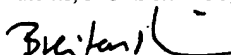
In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Appl. No.: New filing Confirmation No. N/A
Applicant(s): Gielen-Haertwig, *et al.*
Filed: herewith
TC/A.U.: N/A
Examiner: N/A
Docket No.: Le A 36 252
Customer No.: 35969

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This preliminary amendment is submitted in the above-identified national stage application of PCT/EP2003/009108 filed on even date herewith.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 18 of this paper.